

## ARTISTS' BIOGRAPHIES

### HEIDI BJØRGAN

Norway, 1970

Just like the great American potter George Ohr, whose goal was never to make two identical works, Heidi Bjørgan challenges the notion of what a potter may be by “removing” all traces of acquired professional skills. At times her ceramic works look as though they have melted and imploded in the kiln and her glazes are dynamic and expressive. Rather than expressing herself through creating new forms, Heidi Bjørgan replicates the shape of non-valuable everyday objects. Already discarded as trash and now combined with clay, her reconstructed objects are given a second chance. Presented in a new context, or even given a different function, they are imbued with new meaning, acquire a new value and offer a different aesthetic experience.

### REBECCA BRODSKIS

France, 1988

Rebecca Brodskis spent most of her childhood between France and Morocco and currently lives in Paris. She studied Fine Arts in London and Paris and holds a master's degree in Sociology from the University of Caen. Exploring the boundaries of the sentient world, her work moves between conscious and unconscious spaces, leading to a reflection on existence, self and otherness. A dominant idea in Rebecca Brodskis's work is that of being in an in-between: an intermediate space at the crossroads of empirical reality and imagination, order and disorder, materialism and spirituality, determinism and freedom. Her work is a hymn to humanity.

### ALINA FRIESKE

Germany, 1994

Alina Frieske holds a bachelor's degree in Visual Communication from the Maastricht Academy of Media Design and Technology and a master's degree in Photography at the ECAL in Lausanne. In her work, fragments of images taken from social media platforms are reconstructed into new scenarios using digital collage. Alina Frieske builds a palette of expressive colors and textures from preexisting images, working at the intersection of painting and photography. Through a process of recontextualization of digital images, her work examines the transmission and circulation of information and blurs the boundaries between privacy and anonymity. What constitutes our virtual identities and how is our self-perception impacted by digital technologies present in our everyday lives?

### JEPPE HEIN

Denmark, 1974

Jeppe Hein is a Danish artist based in Berlin and Copenhagen. He is widely known for his creation of experiential and interactive artworks that can be positioned at the junction of art, architecture, and technical inventions. Unique in their formal simplicity and notable for their frequent use of humor, his works engage in a lively dialogue with the traditions of Minimalist sculpture and Conceptual art of the 1970s. Jeppe Hein's works often feature surprising and captivating elements which place spectators at the center of events and focus on their experience and perception of the surrounding space.

### DAN HOLDSWORTH

United Kingdom, 1974

Dan Holdsworth studied photography at the University of the Arts London and lives and works in Northumberland, England. His practice blends art, science and nature to produce works which challenge our perceptions and reinvent the notion of landscape. Dan Holdsworth's twin interests in the environment and new technologies have led him to study many glaciers around the world, notably in Iceland and the Alps. The artist works together with geologists, using high precision instruments to gather millimeter-perfect data, revealing landscapes never seen before. By using

unusually long exposure times, Dan Holdsworth creates images filled with light, presenting ethereal and otherworldly scenes.

## **MATT KEEGAN**

United States, 1976

Matt Keagan holds an MFA from Columbia University in New York. He lives and works in Brooklyn. His artistic practice is conceptual and interdisciplinary, mostly exploring the intersection between language and image. He uses video, collage, photography and sculpture to explore the relationship between image, language and cognition. Addressing the subjective nature of our perception of our environment, Matt Keagan depicts objects linked to specific cultural and historical circumstances, showing how their meanings evolve alongside our personal ideas and opinions.

## **ANNE MARIE LAUREYS**

Belgium, 1962

Anne Marie Laureys thinks of her ceramics as metaphors for feelings. She starts the process by throwing a classic, symmetrical pot. Whilst the clay is still soft, she pulls, folds, pinches and punctures it. The tension of the clay underneath her fingers dictates the way the folds take shape. Her pieces have a spontaneous, unplanned quality but in reality she takes time to find the shape of a vessel, remolding and refolding the clay over and over again until it speaks with her unique voice. Her works are renowned for their sense of excitement, freshness and tactility.

## **ANETA REGEL**

Poland, 1976

Aneta Regel lives and works in London. She uses objects found in nature to convey her artistic vision. However, she seeks not only to capture the forms, energies and rhythms of these natural phenomena, but also to convey the emotional response they evoke in her. Growing up in Poland, Aneta Regel encountered large stones in forests; smooth round excrescences left behind by glacial action. Endowed with anthropomorphic and seemingly magical powers, they are a subject of legend in her native country. Aneta Regel's work is informed by this same sense of awe in the face of nature and she has an openness to its transcendental dimension.

## **YUVAL YAIRI**

Israel, 1961

Yuval Yairi explores historically, culturally, or politically charged local places that are also associated with his personal biography and memory. Whether it is a Leper Hospital or a writer's library, an abandoned Arab village, a cheap hotel room or a museum undergoing renovation – all are transformed through his personal perspective, deconstructing and recomposing spaces, times and events. Yuval Yairi adopted the semi-fictional figure of the "Surveyor", an alter-ego created to examine his surroundings, used for introspection and personal soul-searching. With the help of the "Surveyor", he formulates a coded language with symbolic actions and objects, expressing thoughts and feelings which he cannot share publicly.

## **FABIENNE LEVY**

Avenue Louis-Ruchonnet 6  
1003 Lausanne, Switzerland  
+41 21 711 43 20

[www.fabiennelevy.com](http://www.fabiennelevy.com)

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Please contact [info@fabiennelevy.com](mailto:info@fabiennelevy.com) for more information.